Cedrone

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an oblique bushing separating said upper and lower knuckles, said bushing having the same angle as said second terminating surface of said upper knuckle and said first terminating surface of said lower knuckle; and

a spindle received by at least one of said knuckles and said bushing, wherein said spindle establishes rotating communication between said upper and lower knuckles and allows said upper knuckle to be separated from said bushing;

wherein said bushing has a lower coefficient of friction with respect to said respective oblique surfaces of said upper and lower knuckles than said respective surfaces have for each other and wherein said bushing and said knuckles form a continuous cylinder when said knuckles are in a resting position.

17. (Twice Amended) A gravity hinge consisting essentially of:

an upper cylindrical knuckle having a terminating surface that is oblique to the vertical axis of said upper knuckle;

a lower cylindrical knuckle having a terminating surface that is oblique to the vertical axis of said lower knuckle and at substantially the same angle as said upper knuckle terminating surface;

a spindle for rotatably engaging said upper knuckle with said lower knuckle and allowing said upper knuckle to be separated from said lower knuckles; and

an oblique self-lubricating friction reducer surrounding said spindle and physically separating said knuckles wherein said self-lubricating friction reducer and said knuckles form a continuous cylinder when said knuckles are in a resting position.

REMARKS

On or around December 19, 2002, counsel for Applicant contacted the Examiner to discuss issues raised in the final rejection and related to a possible continuing application. During that conversation the Examiner indicated that the term "lifted off" that was included